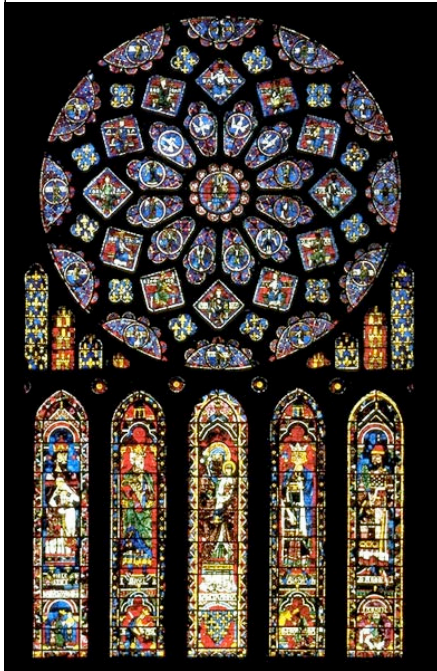
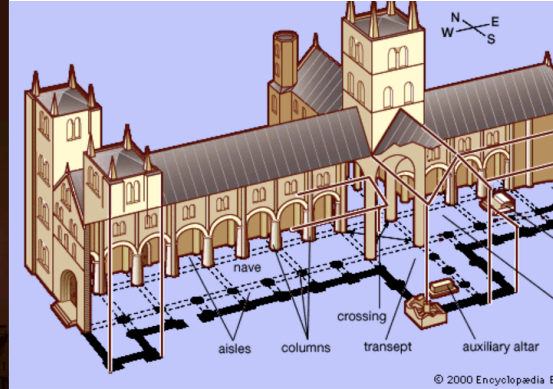
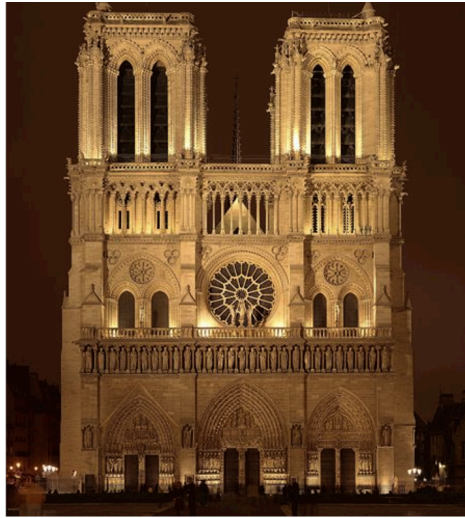


The Medieval Church



The Medieval Church



Notre Dame de Paris
Construction began:1163 Completed :1345

Why did the Church have so much power and influence in Medieval life??



*Nearly everyone in Europe during
the Middle Ages belonged to the
Roman Catholic Church
(the main form of Christianity at the
time)*

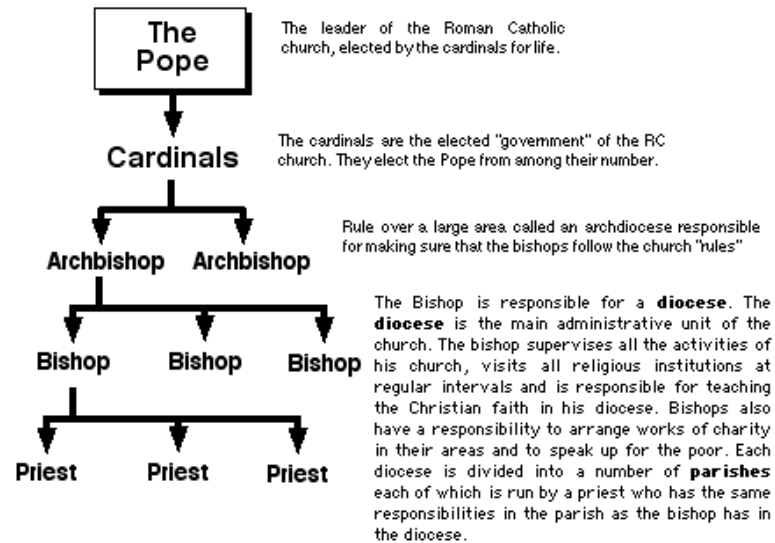
*Head of Church = Pope
Church leaders = priests, bishops,
cardinals*

*Altogether, these men were called
"clergy"*



Religion in the Middle Ages

Clergy was organized in strict hierarchy of rank



Religion in the Middle Ages

Cardinals most important and powerful clergy;
advised pope on legal and spiritual matters

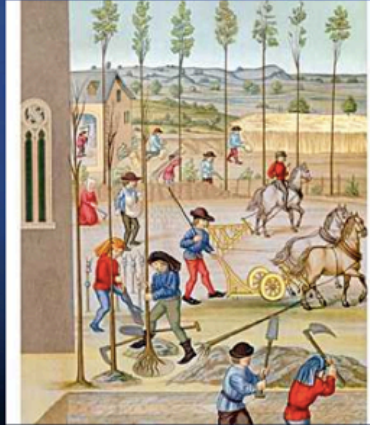


Raphael, *Portrait of a Cardinal*,
1510-12



Pope Francis with Cardinals, 2013

During the Middle Ages, life was short and difficult for most people. Their faith in God and the Church gave them hope for the future (in heaven).



Another recurrence of plague in Naples in 1656 inspired this depiction of dead being hauled away.

⊕ The clergy performed all the rituals people thought were important in their lives: marriages, funerals, blessings on the sick and dying, and confessions of sin.



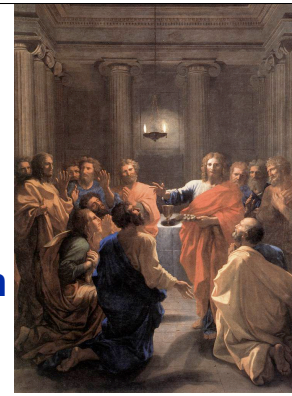
The marriage of King Arthur.





7 Sacraments

1. Baptism
2. Confirmation
3. Penance/Confession
4. Holy Eucharist
5. Holy Orders / Ordination
6. Matrimony
7. Last Rites /
Anointing of the Sick



The Church had a Powerful Political and Economic Role

Throughout the Middle Ages, the church was one of the few sources of leadership and stability that people could rely upon. One historian has noted that “The continuity and the authority of the Church of Rome stood out in marked contrast against the short-lived kingdoms which rose and fell in the early Middle Ages.” As a result, the Catholic church became one of medieval Europe’s most powerful and enduring institutions.

Religion in the Middle Ages

Kings or nobles selected bishops based on family connections or political power



The Church and Medieval Life

Popes held political and spiritual power over monarchs = sometimes in conflict



⊕ High Church officials served as political advisors to kings. They negotiated agreements among warring kingdoms, and encouraged peace by threatening to “excommunicate” nobles who rebelled.



Excommunicate = to prevent someone from taking part in Church life.

⊕ Since the Church was such a central part of Medieval life, excommunication was a horrible punishment. It meant that family, neighbors, and others would no longer associate with you! Even worse, the promise of heaven would be removed.



⊕ (And remember, there was no alternative church to join!).



Religion in the Middle Ages

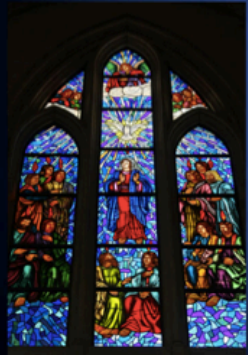
By 1200s, the church was a leading landowner and wealthiest institution in Europe



The church also had the power to tax; parish priests collected a tithe = one-tenth of a person's income

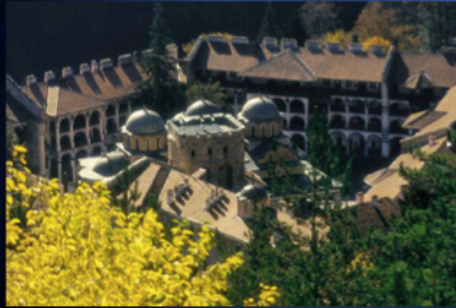


✦ The Church was also powerful because of its wealth. Some church officials collected taxes during Medieval times. Other clergymen encouraged “voluntary” donations to their churches by telling believers that their generosity would guarantee them a spot in heaven!



⊕ The Church was given many fiefs from lords.
Men and women who dedicated their lives to
God lived on these fiefs.

⊕ Monks lived in monasteries
⊕ Nuns lived in convents.



Spread of Monasticism



 *Cluniac and Cistercian Monasteries*

These monks and nuns

- grew crops and tended livestock,
- copied and decorated holy books,
- developed new industries,
- ran orphanages and schools, and
- did good deeds in the community



← Some monks even fought as knights for their lords!

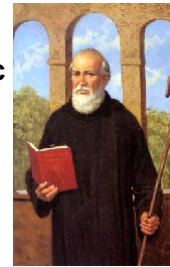
Influences of Monasteries

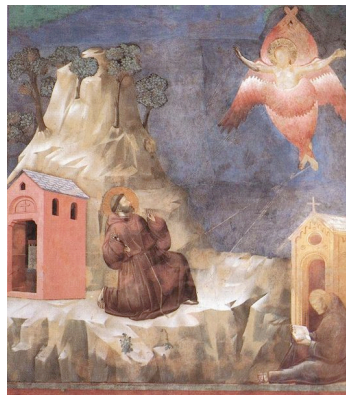
- 
1. Preserved and copied ancient and classical texts
 2. Schools
 3. Hospitals
 4. Soup kitchens and orphanages
 5. Guest houses for weary travelers
 6. Taught peasants farming and animal husbandry
 7. Advances in manufacturing and crafts
(ex. cheese, wine, cloth)

Benedictine Order



- **529 founded a monastery in Monte Cassino Italy**
- **Rule of St. Benedict became a model for monastic communities**
 - **Manual work**
 - **Meditation**
 - **Prayer**
- **Life of Prayer, Silence, Poverty, Chastity**





Franciscan Order

Founded in early 1200s by St. Francis of Assisi

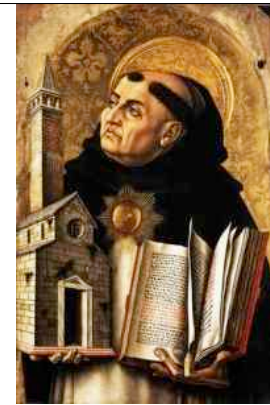


Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace;
where there is hatred, let me sow love;
where there is injury, pardon;
where there is doubt, faith;
where there is despair, hope;
where there is darkness, light;
and where there is sadness, joy.

-Prayer of St. Francis

Scholasticism

- By 11th-12th centuries, universities were created in Bologna, Paris, Oxford, Cambridge, & other cities
- St. Thomas Aquinas (1225-1274)
 - ✦ *Go to text p. 36: What did Aquinas believe about how reason and faith worked together?*



III. The Church and Medieval Life

Heretics - people who denied the church's principles



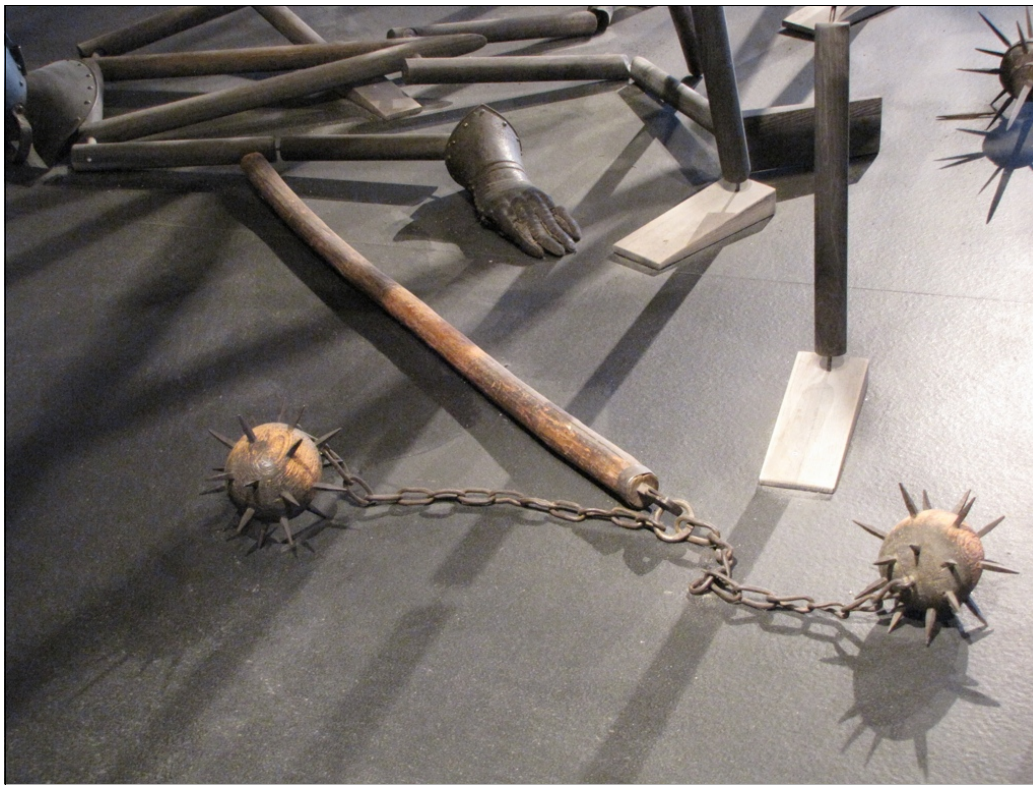
The Inquisition



What was its purpose?







⊕ For 200 years starting in 1095, the Church encouraged a series of Crusades, or holy wars, against Muslims. Knights, soldiers, and even ordinary people traveled to the "Holy Lands" in an effort to keep Jerusalem under Christian control.



⊕ In the end, Christians did not maintain control of the Holy Lands. However, the Crusades brought lasting change to Europe. New foods, fashions, inventions, and traditions came from the Middle East during these wars.



Review ...
The Role of the Church during the
Middle Ages:

- ⊕ Comforted people during tough times
- ⊕ Performed rituals like marriages, funerals, confessions, and prayer
- ⊕ Held some “governmental” powers (taxation, passage and enforcement of laws)
- ⊕ Wealth
- ⊕ Monasteries and convents
- ⊕ Influenced kings and nobles in decisions regarding war and peace



Bottom line ...

- ⊕ The Catholic Church was the most powerful and influential institution in the Middle Ages. It dominated all aspects of European people's lives!

